

2005 Hall of Fame Inductee

Dr. Richard Delorit

Richard Delorit was born in Forestville, Wisconsin and graduated from Algona High School where he was active in the FFA, earning the Chapter Farmer, State Farmer and American Farmer degrees. In addition he was Chapter President and State President of the Wisconsin Association of FFA. After completing his B.S. degree in Agricultural Education from the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, Dr. Delorit began teaching vocational agriculture in Abbotsford and then ten years in Plymouth, Wisconsin. Dr. Delorit accepted a position with River Falls High School in 1953 which also included an appointment as a teacher trainer at LJW-River Falls (River Falls State Teachers College). Dr. Delorit completed his M.S. degree and Ph.D. degree at UW-Madison. He was appointed dean of the School of Agriculture in 1957 and was appointed Academic Vice-President in 1964. He served in this position until his retirement in 1986 with the exception of one year when he served as interim president at UW - River Falls. No matter what position Dr. Delorit held, he always found time to teach a class in agriculture.

During his career as a vocational agriculture teacher, university professor, and university administrator, Dr. Delorit wrote several books. The first, Crop Production, a high school agronomy textbook, was published in 1953. He also wrote and published Illustrated Taxonomy Manual of Weed Seeds in 1970 and Seeds of Continental United States Legumes in 1986.

Dr. Delorit was able to gain leadership skills and life-long career development skills through his FFA experiences. Dr. Delorit would have been honored to accept this nomination to the FFA Hall of Fame.